

MINUTES
WEST HARTFORD PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE COMMISSION MEETING
MONDAY March 11, 2019
WEST HARTFORD TOWN HALL, ROOM 312
Next Meeting April 8, 2019 @ 7:00PM ROOM 400

Board Members in attendance: Daniel Johnson, Dan Firestone, Sandy Fry, Ken Livingston, Jill Morawski, Colin Gillespie, Paul Hogan, Ryan Nobrega. A Quorum was determined to be present.

Town Staff in attendance: None

Quorum was held.

- 1) Call to order 7:05PM. Introductions of those in attendance was made.
- 2) Approval of previous meeting minutes. Dan Firestone made a motion for approval of the February 2019 minutes, seconded by Jill Morawski. All in favor.
- 3) Old Business
 - a. North Main Street Road Diet Trail – letter sent to Town Manager
 - i. A brief discussion of the project was provided for new Commission members and Daniel will send out some background material.
 - ii. Sandy heard from the Mayor and one Council member regarding the letter.
 - iii. The Town mentioned a bridge start date has not been established
 - b. Mountain Road Albany Avenue Project
 - i. A motion was made by Daniel Johnson seconded by Dan Firestone to draft a response to the Town regarding the below considerations. Motion passed unanimously:
 1. Appreciation of Town efforts
 2. Concern with 4 ft wide bike lanes
 3. Removal of sidewalk might set precedent for future sidewalks
 4. Proposal for bike box
 5. Adding lanes makes the road more aggressive for cyclists
 6. Insist retiming of traffic signals
 - c. Upcoming Road Projects and Other Bike Facilities
 - i. 1st Round: Fern Street, Brookline, Boulevard,
 - ii. 2nd Round: Ridgewood Sedgwick, Hilldale, Richmond lane
 - iii. They are working with residents to discuss bike lanes on Boulevard between Main street and Raymond Road. Raymond to Trout Brook has parking issues which need to be resolved before bike lanes can be considered
 - iv. Trout Brook Trail is moving forward. The Town is working with DEEP on the section from Fern to Duffield. design has begun for Section 3 (section south of Park)
 - d. Planning Department Matters – updates via conversation with Sandy Fry
 - i. The Plan of Conservation and Development is moving forward. Public Input is complete. The next step is the crafting of a vision and goals. The vision and goals will then be discussed by the Town Planning & Zoning

Commission and Council. Once the Vision and Goals are accepted, the writing of the plan can begin.

- e. Update from town staff – no town staff in attendance
 - f. Bike Share
 - i. CRCOG is gathering municipalities interested in bike share program to issue a request for proposals.
 - 1. West Hartford has expressed an interest in participating
 - 2. The Commission discussed the value of bike share - As a way to reduce parking, drive demand for alternative facilities
 - 3. The Commission should provide input to the Town regarding bike share as the project proceeds.
 - g. Items for consideration by the Board
 - i. Need For more crosswalks, specifically Farmington Ave
 - 1. Wait for input from Ed Pawlak
 - ii. Safety campaign
 - 1. With no staff in attendance, No movement made on this at meeting
 - 2. Possible ideas suggested to include presentation at Celebrate West Hartford for pedestrian and bicycle safety
 - h. Bishops Corner Intersection, meeting held March 7th, meeting for committee members only
 - i. Tracy Frankel updated the commission
 - 1. Intersection was the first road safety study 2016
 - 2. 198 crashes a year
 - 3. 17% injury rate
 - 4. 5 Proposals were presented and passed around at the meeting. we will scan the proposals and send them to the Commission
 - i. Report from Bike Rack Subcommittee
 - i. Jill Morawski and Alan discussed standard design, the post and ring seems like a good design to continue to use. It could be modified with a unique West Hartford design.
 - ii. donations from businesses, placement. need businesses to be on board
 - iii. Request for current inventory of bike racks will be made to Town
 - iv. Prioritize placement
- 4) New Business
- a. West Hartford Sister City efforts
 - i. Jill Morawski, the Mayor signed an agreement to find a sister city for West Hartford to work learn from and share experience regarding sustainability to benefit economic growth and infrastructure development. Recommendations for cities is requested.
 - b. Bike to Work – May is bike to work event. The group discussed the value of spending energy on bike to work vs other activities we could tackle. Given the low turnout last year, we decided we will let the town take the lead as discussed at last month's meeting with several events held at different employment centers within town.
 - c. Developing standard West Hartford bike rack design
 - i. Covered in item 3i above
- 5) Reports from associated Groups
- a. Update from Cycling without age
 - i. Rickshaw is at Bloomfield Bike for service
 - ii. Rickshaw will participate in an event in Bolton

- b. Update from Bike West Hartford
 - i. Center Streets is in need of donations!
 - ii. Sept 15th 2019 Discover New Britain
 - iii. October 13th 2019 new section of Vernon, Manchester, East Hartford Greenway ribbon cutting ride

Meeting adjourned at 9:00PM

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Johnson, Secretary and Board Member
West Hartford Pedestrian and Bicycle Commission